## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

:

CHARLES RAY HICKS,

Rockview,

Petitioner, : No. 1:17-CV-1969

v. : (Chief Judge Conner)

JOHN E. WETZEL, Secretary,

Pennsylvania Department of Corrections; : ROBERT GILMORE, Superintendent of : the State Correctional Institution at Greene; : and MARK GARMAN, Superintendent of : the State Correctional Institution at :

Respondents.

THIS IS A CAPITAL CASE

## **ORDER**

AND NOW, this date of February, 2019, upon consideration of Petitioner's *Motion to Stay the Federal Proceedings or, in the Alternative Dismiss Without Prejudice, to Allow Petitioner's Counsel to Exhaust Federal Claims for Relief in State Court*, it is hereby ORDERED and DIRECTED that said motion is GRANTED and that:

- 1. Petitioner's federal habeas corpus is dismissed without prejudice;
- 2. Petitioner is directed to exhaust state remedies expeditiously; and
- 3. Petitioner's counsel shall notify this Court within thirty (30) days of the termination of state court proceedings.

## BY THE COURT

Christopher C. Conner, Chief Judge United States District Court Middle District of Pennsylvania